Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 HCT-01 FBO-02 A-01 OC-06 CCO-00

PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 L-03 PER-01 /071 W
016306

R 262045Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3224
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY PORT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 25 JUN 1982
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 5157

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, ASEC, JM
SUBJECT: JAMAICAN ELECTIONS: SECURITY PRECAUTIONS FOR MISSION STAFF AND BUILDINGS

1. SEPTELS REPORT THAT EMOTIONS RUNNING HIGHER IN CURRENT ELECTION CAMPAIGN THAN IN ANY PREVIOUS, AND THAT ASSOCIATED POLITICAL VIOLENCE IS INCREASING. PROSPECT IS CONSIDERABLE BLOODSHED IN DAYS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING AND FOLLOWING DECEMBER 15 ELECTIONS. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE AT THIS TIME THAT ANY OF OUR BUILDINGS OR STAFF WILL BE TARGETED FOR VIOLENCE, THE RISK OF INCIDENTS IS SUFFICIENTLY HIGH TO WARRANT SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS. FOR DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION FOLLOWING ARE MEASURES BEING TAKEN:

A. ALL STAFF AND DEPENDENTS ARE BEING ADVISED TO HOLD MOVEMENT AROUND KINGSTON IN COMING WEEKS TO ABSOLUTE MINIMUM AND TO AVOID CROWDS -- ESPECIALLY POLITICAL RALLIES.

B. ALL MISSION OFFICES IN KINGSTON WILL BE CLOSED TO PUBLIC ON DECEMBER 15, ELECTION DAY, AND STAFF PLACED ON ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVE. SINGLE EXCEPTION

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WILL BE MAIN CHANCERY WHERE A SKELETON STAFF WILL BE MAINTAINED AND COMMUNICATIONS OPEN. IT MAY BECOME DESIRABLE TO EXTEND CLOSURE OF SOME OFFICES (ESPECIALLY VISA ANNEX AND USIS) FOR ONE OR TWO DAYS FOLLOWING DECEMBER 15. DECISION ON THIS POSSIBLE ACTION WILL BE TAKEN LATER.

C. TWO MARINE SECURITY GUARDS WILL BE ON DUTY AT MAIN CHANCERY 24 HOURS A DAY DECEMBER 13 - 17.

2. ALTHOUGH NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO MISSION SECURITY PER SE, THERE IS STRONG POSSIBILITY, IF MANLEY GOVERNMENT RETURNED TO OFFICE, THAT HE WILL BE FACED WITH REQUESTS FOR TEMPORARY REFUGE OR POLITICAL ASYLUM BY A NUMBER OF PROMINENT OPPOSITION POLITICIANS. SEVERAL HAVE ALREADY SUGGESTED TO US THAT THEY MAY PURSUE THIS COURSE. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES ALL AMERICAN STAFF ARE BEING THOROUGHLY BRIEFED ON HOW TO HANDLE SUCH REQUESTS PER 2 FAM 227 THROUGH 229.4.

3. FINALLY, BY SEPTEL WE ARE REQUESTING TEMPORARY AUGMENTATION OUR EMERGENCY RADIO NET BY TEMPORARY LOAN ADDITIONAL RADIOS.
GERARD

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